

# Ontario Nurses' Association – ONA 80

## BARGAINING UNIT PRESIDENT REPORT

### Sunnybrook Bargaining Unit – RN's

## 2024

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Dear Fellow Members

Although the pandemic has been declared over, the fallout because of COVID 19 lingers on. 2024 continued with severe nursing shortages still taking a toll on our front-line nurses.

Although vacancy rates are getting better, it is a slow and painful process.

We hope to see the status much improved as we go into a new year but the fight is not over.

Our Collective Agreement finally got the arbitration award we were all looking for with a much-needed increase in the nurses' salaries, and other impressive changes including the unlimited coverage for mental health benefits.

The challenge we currently face and are willing to fight for is Better Nurse to Patient ratios. Patients are becoming more and more complex and it is more difficult to provide the optimum care that we so want to give.

I am proud of each and every one of you for staying professional and continuing to give the best care possible under these circumstances. Our communities support us and they will continue to respect the nurses and join us in our fight for a better tomorrow. "Better Ratios, Better Care".

We must continue to be strong and together we will get through this. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any concerns. I am here to support you and help to get us all back to better days ahead. Thank you for all that you do to keep our patients safe and giving the care that they deserve.

Through this all we must also remember to practice self-care and make sure we look after ourselves so we can continue to care for our patients and each other.

I'll leave you with a final thought. Remember no one is in this alone. We are in this together and we will continue to fight to maintain our rights within the Collective Agreement. Power in numbers.

Never, never, never, give up!

Take good care and stay safe.

In Solidarity,

Paul LoStracco, RN  
Bargaining Unit President  
ONA 80, Sunnybrook Bargaining Unit – RNs